

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH**

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
11 SEPTEMBER 2012**

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

Aldermen M Coyle, G Robinson and J Rankin. Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell, S McGlinchey (Chair), C McLaughlin, G Mullan, D Nicholl, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Development and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGIES: -Chief Executive.

PRESENTATION ON THE PROVISION OF A DESIGNATED OPEN SPACE AT BOVALLY

The Chair welcomed Mr Gareth Dallas and Mr Stephen Hamill, who were representing the residents of Petrie Place, Crossnadonnell Road and Whispering Pines to the meeting. Mr Dallas referred to his letter dated 27 July 2012 to the Chief Executive in which he outlined the case of almost 4,0000 residents who lived east of the Edenmore Road and south of the Greystone Road. He advised that the residents had launched a petition against the development of a further 115 new houses on the last green space in the area and continued that this was their last opportunity to preserve this space for children to play football, fly a kite or for families to have a picnic. He urged Council to support their campaign against the planning permission for the new development which was granted on appeal in 2010 and supported by Council at that time. Residents were concerned about the increased number of cars in this area should this development go ahead and it was envisaged that there would also be an increase in the number of children with no place for informal play. He added residents did not want football pitches, pavilions or play parks, only a designated open area for children to play safely within sight and earshot of their parents. With regard to the proposed riverside walk, he argued that this was situated over the brow of a hill where children would be out of sight from their parents and it could be used as an area where drinking or other anti-social behaviour could take place.

In response members reiterated their support for designated open spaces in built up residential areas and agreed to raise the residents' concerns when the planning application would be brought to Council. The deputation was advised that Council had very little power or authority over planning applications and any decision would ultimately be up to the planners. The issue has been raised with MLAs who have invited the Minister down to speak to the residents. Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Robinson, seconded by Alderman Robinson that the Director of Development set up a meeting with the developer (Braidwater), GM Design and a cross party

representation of Councillors in an attempt to resolve the issue. It was also agreed to ask the planners at the next Planning Services meeting for an office meeting to include both Councillors and objectors to the housing development in the Bovally area.

The Chair thanked Mr Dallas and Mr Hamill for attending the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 14 August 2012 were approved on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Alderman Mullan.

MATTERS ARISING:

Page 2 - Development Report, Page 27 Roe Valley Leisure Centre Spa – At the August Development Committee meeting a member had agreed, in the absence of the Director of Development, to raise his concerns about the Spa Bath in Roe Valley Leisure with the Leisure Services Manager directly. The member now queried if the reduction in fees for the use of the Health Suite had taken effect yet and if there were any plans to back date the reduction for members who had been paying the full rate even though the Spa Bath was not working. In response the Director of Development stated the reduced prices should now have taken effect but she would check and confirm. She continued that discussions had taken place with Competition Line and confirmed that it was not proposed to backdate the reduction in fees for members.

Page 4 – Kennaught Terrace – Provision of a Garden Seat: The Director of Development agreed to check the progress on a request to provide a garden seat for residents of Kennaught Terrace, Limavady and provide an update at the next meeting.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for September 2012 and enlarged thereon.

T/079 – Limavady Sculpture Trail: The Director of Development stated that Councillor Brolly had expressed an interest in sitting on the Nominated Short Listing Panel subject to members' agreement and this was subsequently approved on the proposal of Councillor McLaughlin, seconded by Councillor Nicholl. It was agreed that approval be given to the Nominated Short Listing Panel to select the designs which would best meet the criteria and budget allocations and award them to successful tendering artists.

T/002 – Benone Tourist Complex – Proposed Holiday Closures for Christmas and the New Year: Council agreed that Benone Tourist Complex would be closed from Monday 24th December to Wednesday 26th December 2012 inclusive, re-opening Thursday 27th December 2012. Closed on Monday 31st December 2012 and Tuesday 1st January 2013, reopening Wednesday 2nd January 2013.

CA/002 – Pride of Place Awards: Members were advised that Council had been offered 2 free places for Council representatives to attend the Co-Operation Ireland Pride of Place Awards for 2012. Travel and overnight accommodation costs would have to be covered by Council. It was agreed that the Mayor and an Officer would attend.

CA/20 – Limavady Rotary Club Tree of Remembrance: Council agreed to grant permission to Limavady Rotary Club to use Drumceatt Square and the Christmas Tree for their fundraising venture in the lead up to Christmas 2012 subject to the necessary health and safety requirements being met and an advanced event plan of activities being provided.

T/091 – Segway Express: Council granted permission to Segway Express to provide segway tours at Benone Strand, the dune land board walks and Benone Tourist Complex and agreed that Council officers would liaise further with Segway Express to establish agreement on segway use and identify other appropriate sites.

T/002 – Caravan Club Booking: Council agreed to facilitate the booking from the Caravan Club during the weekend 12 to 14 October 2012 at £350 being pro rata to the initial fee which was comparable to the basic site fee that would be charged for no electric sites.

T/008 – Lough Foyle Ferry Service: Following a meeting with the Lough Foyle Ferry Company, the Director of Development confirmed that the last ferry sailing between Magilligan and Greencastle would take place on Sunday 7th October 2012. The Director of Development informed members that the original contract documents have been amended slightly and were required to be signed and sealed at the meeting. She reminded members that it had been agreed at an earlier stage that the open market would be tested in respect of the provision of a Ferry Service from 2012 and beyond. In the discussion which followed the Director of Development gave approximate car usage figures from March to August 2012 and agreed to provide members further information at the end of the contract period.. Discussion followed on public access to toilets at the Ferry terminal. The Director of Development agreed to address this as part of the tendering process. It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Alderman Coyle that the tendering process would be taken forward provided that it was on a cost neutral basis to Council.

Correspondence from AA Veterans Support: Council has been invited to purchase a table of 10 @ at £500 or £50 per person for a Gala Launch Dinner on 6 October 2012 in the Hilton Hotel, Belfast organised by AA Veterans Support. As on previous occasions it was agreed that Council would leave it at the discretion of individual Councillors if they wished to attend such Gala Events.

Scroggy Road, Limavady: The Director of Development advised that the new facilities had been open for almost a year. Discussion followed on unauthorised use and the need to address weaknesses in boundary fencing to discourage unauthorised use of the facilities and to address the concerns of the residents adjacent to the entrance to Scroggy Road. Members agreed that Council must put in whatever measures were deemed necessary to prevent unauthorised access, unsupervised use of the facilities and breaches in security. The Director of

Development confirmed that CCTV cameras would continue to be used to monitor the situation. In response to a member's concern about staffing levels within the facility she advised that she was waiting for proposals from the Leisure Services Manager. It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brolly, seconded by Councillor Mullan where necessary, the security fencing should be enhanced and that the concerns of the residents at 39 Scroggy Road would be addressed by the provision of additional boundary fencing and replacement of the gate to the same height as the fence.

Burnfoot – Contribution towards Village Renewal Application: *Councillor Douglas declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brolly, seconded by Alderman Robinson that Council increased its contribution by £2,715.23 to a new total of £12,215.23 towards Burnfoot Community Development Association's projects to improve/enhance facilities within the village.

SD/001 Request from Limavady Sports Council for Grant Assistance: Council approved a grant of £8,000 to Limavady Sports Council from 2012/2013 budget.

2013- City of Culture: Members were advised that a further information evening was planned for Monday 24 September 2012 which would target local groups, organisations, sports clubs and business community interested in planning events to compliment and support the 2013 – City of Culture Programme and raise the profile of Limavady Borough Council.

T/10 – Networked Tourist Information Centres: The Director of Development summarised the information provided about the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) and informed members that under the new criteria the Limavady Tourist Information Centre was classified as a Networked Tourist information Centre.

The recommendations within the report were approved on the proposal of Councillor Beattie, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Binevenagh AONB Forum Site Visits: The Director of Development extended an invitation to members to attend a meeting of the AONB Management Forum on Tuesday 30 October 2012 when members would have an opportunity to visit the completed trails at Gortmore, or the new conservation grazing project at Benone dune land. She added that any member wishing to attend should contact the Countryside Officer for further information.

Milk Cup Tournament 2012: The organisers of the 2012 Northern Ireland Milk Cup Tournament have written to Limavady Borough Council expressing their thanks for Council's support during the Milk Cup and made a specific reference to the standard of the Scroggy Road pitches.

Benone Tourist Complex: A member raised his concerns over an area of accessible car parking at Benone Tourist Complex which was completely flooded and added that it had been like this for some time. The situation has been reported to staff at the complex.

Colmcille Talk – Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre/Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Gleann na Ró: The Director of Development agreed to provide a member with details of the speaker who would be giving the Colmcille Talk on 25th September 2012.

Civic Reception for Local Paralympians Sally Brown and Jason Smith: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Nicholl, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin that a joint civic reception be held for local paralympians Sally Brown and Jason Smith.

NEXT MEETING – 9th October 2012

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 8.20 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting